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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides an image processing apparatus and method wherein image signals can be arithmetically processed on the real-time basis. Infrared rays introduced into a light reception section are photoelectrically converted in synchronism with a reset pulse signal supplied from a timing generator and are outputted to an amplification section in synchronism with a light reception section transfer pulse signal supplied from the timing generator. The signal inputted to the amplification section is amplified to a level necessary for processing in an apparatus in the following stage in synchronism with an amplification section drive pulse signal supplied thereto from the timing generator, and outputted to an arithmetic operation section. The signal inputted to the arithmetic operation section is temporarily stored into a storage section, and a predetermined arithmetic operation designated by an arithmetic operation selection signal from an arithmetic operation control section is performed for the signal by a comparison section to produce a binary digitized signal. The binary digitized signal is outputted to an outputting section. The signal inputted to the outputting section is outputted as a pixel signal over a common signal line in synchronism with a selection signal from a horizontal scanning circuit.